

WASHINGTON COUNTY

COMMUNITY PROFILE

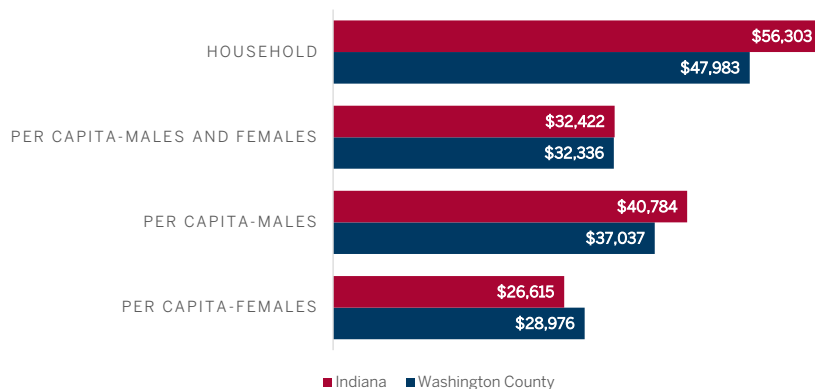
Facts, figures, and things to know about the people and places in Washington County.

Household Demographics

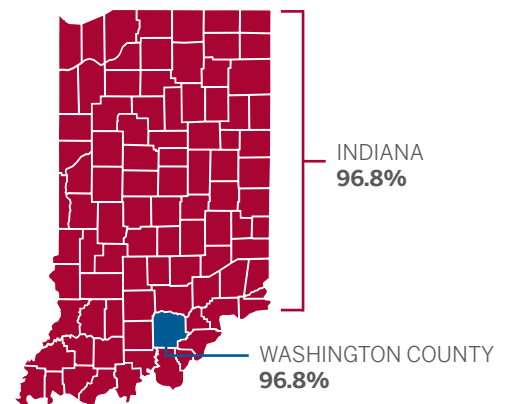
According to population estimates, there are 27,848 people who live in Washington County.¹

The median household income for Washington County is approximately \$8,000 lower than the state average.² There is a notable wage disparity between women and men in the county, with women earning approximately \$8,000 less than men on average. This pay gap is significantly lower than the state average of \$14,000.³ The employment rate for Washington County is identical to the state average, with most residents of Washington County being employed.⁴

MEDIAN INCOME FOR NON-DISABLED ADULTS

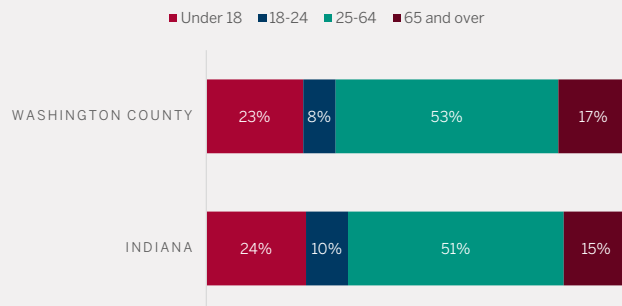


ADULTS EMPLOYED



The median age for Washington County is approximately four years higher than the state's median age. Washington County has a very similar age distribution as the rest of the state, with slightly fewer residents age 18-24 than the average Indiana county.⁵

PERCENT OF POPULATION



MEDIAN AGE

37.7
INDIANA

41.6
WASHINGTON COUNTY

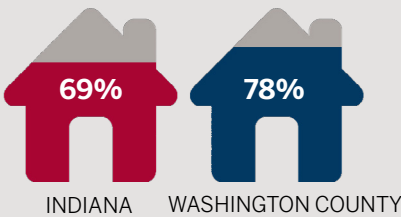


The **Pekin 4th of July celebration** is the nation's oldest consecutively ran Fourth of July celebration with the first celebration being held in 1830. With many activities that occur throughout the day, the celebration has grown greatly from its initial start and attracts families from across the region. The celebration includes a parade, fireworks show, live bands, carnival, a flea market, and several food vendors.⁶

Housing

Washington County residents are slightly more likely to own their home than the average Hoosier. Residents also pay about \$150 less in monthly rent payments on average.⁷ About 53 percent of the homes in Washington County are 40 years or older, while approximately 40 percent are worth less than \$100,000.⁸ Multi-family housing comprises approximately 6 percent of housing options in Washington County, and 12 percent of houses in the county are vacant. About 11 percent of households in Washington County qualify as having a severe housing problem (overcrowding, high housing costs, or lack of kitchen or plumbing facilities), which is below than the state average.⁹

PERCENT OF OWNER-OCCUPIED HOUSING UNITS



MEDIAN RENT PAYMENT

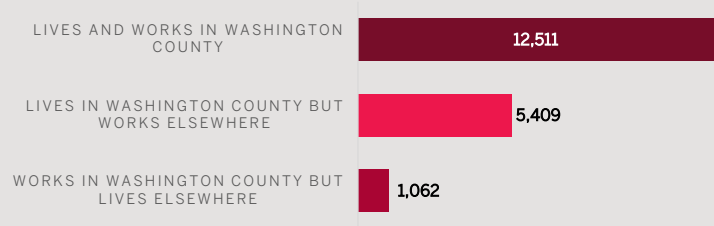


HOUSING CHALLENGES

BUILT PRIOR TO 1980	52.6%
HOUSES VALUED AT LESS THAN 100K	40.2%
MULTI-FAMILY HOUSING	6.3%
VACANT HOUSING UNITS	11.9%

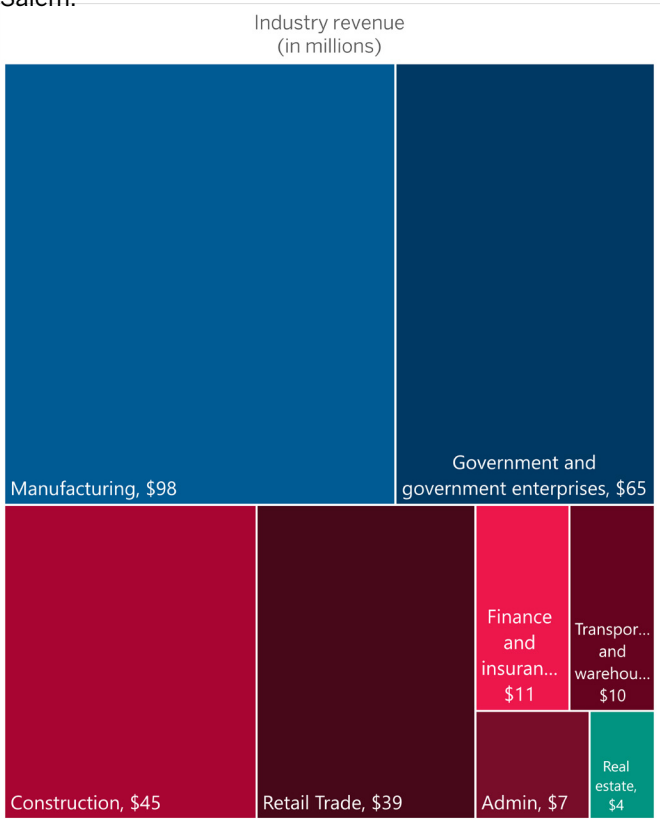
COMMUTING

About two-thirds of Washington County workers both work and live in their county of residence, with over 12,511 people working and living in the county. 28 percent of workers live in Washington County and work elsewhere, and another 6 percent live in a different county and work in Washington county.¹⁰



Industry

The top three industries in Washington County are Manufacturing; Government and Government Enterprises; and Construction.¹¹ The top three major employers in the county are Kimball Office Caseloads Manufacturing, Peerless Gear, and Walmart Supercenter, all located in Salem.¹²



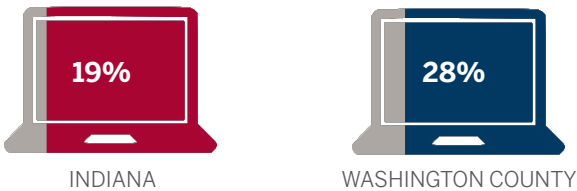
Technology

Access to the internet provides communities with a number of opportunities, from educational tools, to telemedicine, to the ability for local businesses to sell to people around the world. High speed broadband (25 Mbps download and 3 Mbps upload) allows for the most effective use of new technology that links rural communities to resources worldwide.¹³ The median household in Washington County has internet speeds below the definition of broadband internet, and about 28 percent of households in the county have no internet access at all.¹⁴

MEDIAN DOWNLOAD ↑ UPLOAD SPEED (MBPS)



PERCENT OF HOUSEHOLDS WITH NO INTERNET ACCESS



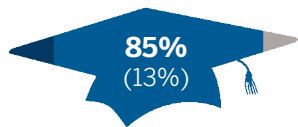
Educational Attainment

Washington County is home to three public school districts, the East Washington School Corporation, the Salem Community School Corporation, and the West Washington School Corporation. Approximately 85 percent of Washington County residents age 25 years or older are high school graduates and 13 percent of county residents have a bachelor's degree or higher. Both statistics are lower than the state averages of 89 percent and 27 percent, respectively.¹⁵ Almost 90 percent of high school graduates in Washington County complete their degree within four years.¹⁶ In comparison to the rest of the state, students in Washington County are slightly less likely to pass the ISTEP 10th grade math and language arts exams combined, with approximately 29 percent of students passing.¹⁷ 12th grade students in Washington County are more likely to take the SAT than the ACT; about 56 percent of 12th grade students take the SAT while 22 percent take the ACT.¹⁸

% WITH HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA (BACHELOR'S DEGREE)



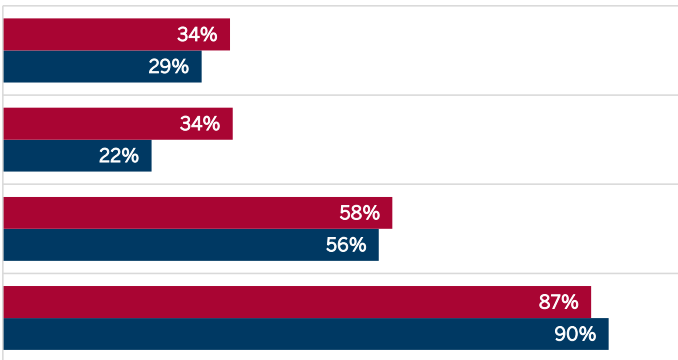
INDIANA



WASHINGTON COUNTY

COMBINED ISTEP PASS IN ENGLISH AND MATH
12TH GRADERS TAKING ACT
12TH GRADERS TAKING SAT
HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES IN 4 YEARS

COLLEGE READINESS

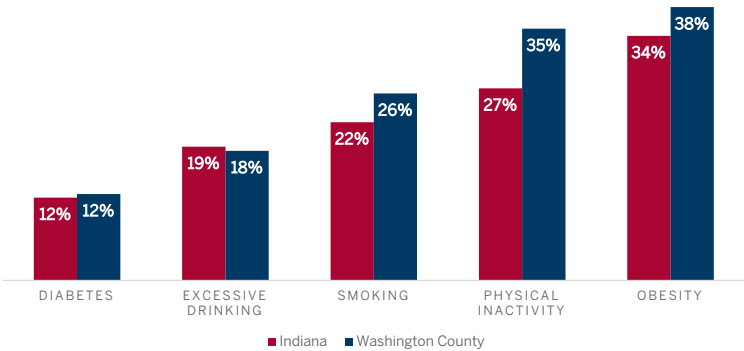


■ Indiana ■ Washington County

Health

Health indicators for Washington County show that residents are about as likely to have diabetes and drink excessively as the average Hoosier. Residents are more likely to smoke, be physically inactive, and be obese than the state average.¹⁹

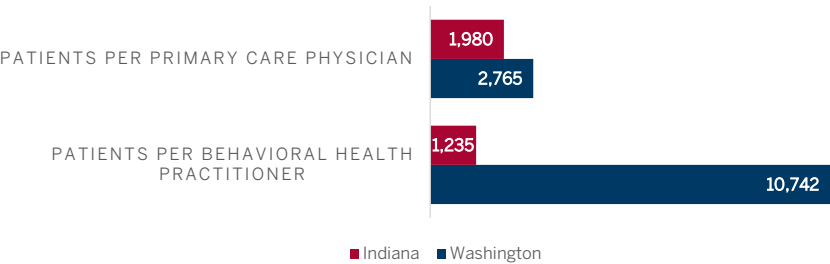
HEALTH RISK FACTORS



■ Indiana ■ Washington County

Health Provider Ratios

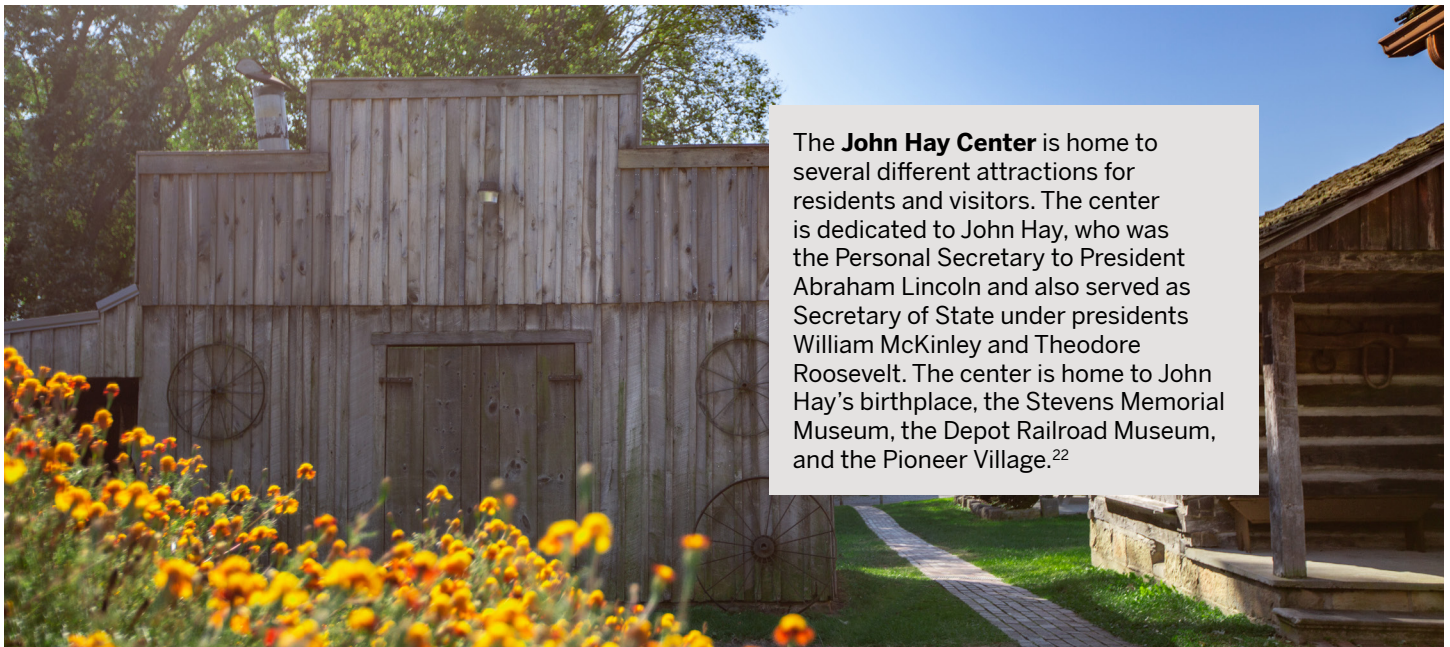
NUMBER OF PATIENTS PER PROVIDER



■ Indiana ■ Washington

Medical and behavioral health providers can help address issues such as diabetes, obesity, smoking, and excessive alcohol consumption, and they can provide assistance to those struggling with mental health and substance use—issues currently facing many Hoosiers. Residents of Washington County have less access to both primary care physicians and behavioral health practitioners than the average Hoosier. In Washington County, there is one primary care physician available for every 10,742 residents and one behavioral health practitioner available for every 2,765 residents.^{20,21}

Highlights



The **John Hay Center** is home to several different attractions for residents and visitors. The center is dedicated to John Hay, who was the Personal Secretary to President Abraham Lincoln and also served as Secretary of State under presidents William McKinley and Theodore Roosevelt. The center is home to John Hay's birthplace, the Stevens Memorial Museum, the Depot Railroad Museum, and the Pioneer Village.²²

Washington County lakes and waterways attract visitors seeking recreational activities. Some of the **lakes in Washington County** are: Spurgeon Hollow Lake, Lake Salinda, Lake John Hay, and Elk Creek Lake. These bodies of water are great spots to bring the family for trail hiking, fishing, and observing birds or other animals in their natural habitats. Blue River is another destination that offers its visitors the opportunity to rent canoes or kayaks and casually float down the river where they can also fish and view birds and other animals on their journey.²³



The **Knobstone Trail** is the longest hiking trail in Indiana, and there are plans to extend the trail and make it longer. This rugged trail passes through three counties in Indiana. It has many different steep climbs and attractions along its way that will keep all hikers engaged and challenged throughout their journey.²⁴

Sources

^{1,2,5,7,8,15}U.S. Census Bureau, 2019 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates.; ³U.S. Census Bureau, 2019 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates, Earnings in Past 12 Months (in 2018 Inflation-Adjusted Dollars); ⁴U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2019 Local Area Unemployment Statistics.; ⁶<http://memory.loc.gov/diglib/legacies/loc.afc.afc-legacies.200002998/>; ^{9,19}University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute, 2021 County Health Rankings.; ¹⁰Indiana Business Research Center, 2019 Annual Commuting Trends.; ¹¹U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, 2019 Employment and Earnings by Industry.; ¹²Hoosiers by the Numbers: Major Employers for Washington County.; ¹³Purdue University Center for Regional Development, Rural Indiana Stats, 2017 Digital Divide Index.; ¹⁴Indicators of Broadband Need, National Telecommunications and Information Administration, 2021; ¹⁶Indiana Department of Education, 2019 Public School Graduates and Graduation Rates.; ¹⁷Indiana Youth Institute, 2017 County Aggregates of Indiana Department of Education ISTEP Pass Rates.; ¹⁸Indiana Youth Institute, 2016 County Aggregates of Indiana Department of Education ACT and SAT rates.; ²⁰Bowen Health Workforce Information Portal, 2018 Supply, Characteristics, and Distribution of Physicians.; ²¹Bowen Health Workforce Information Portal, 2018 Supply, Characteristics, and Distribution of Psychologists and Behavioral Health Professionals.; ²²<https://johnhaycenter.org/>; ^{23,24}http://www.washingtoncounty.in.gov/explore_washington_county/visitors/visitors_guide_to_washington_co.php;



CENTER FOR
RURAL ENGAGEMENT